

THE LOOKOUT



A publication of the Groom Creek Fire District



Proudly Serving Groom Creek Since 1970

Fire Operations Update

Personnel - The Groom Creek Fire District has 2 firefighters on shift 24 hours daily and we utilize our reserve and volunteers to staff the station on evenings and weekends. These full-time personnel have a benefits package that matches fire districts of our size across the state. This improvement to our operations ensures that our personnel have a minimum level of safety. We have recently responded to calls where we have discovered people with weapons. This is a completely unacceptable circumstance to send one person. With this increase in our personnel, we have been able to re-negotiate our aid agreements with Prescott and Central Yavapai Fire to make sure that we have the appropriate number of responders and apparatus en-route to a structure fire, vehicle accident or wildland fire.

Apparatus - We have identified the need to replace our two older structure fire engines (with one newer engine) and one wildland fire engine. We hope to achieve this goal by way of grant funds. This may be a difficult task, but these apparatus are no longer safe or efficient fire apparatus.

Equipment - We have been very successful in obtaining grants for our equipment needs. In the past two years, we have received over \$200,000 worth of equipment including Personal Protective Clothing, Breathing Apparatus, Gas and Chemical Detectors, Thermal Imaging Camera and Extrication Equipment (Jaws of Life). We will continue to pursue grant funding for these needs as they arise.

Facilities - We have been actively working on a building on Spruce Mountain to house our engine and wildland truck located there. We will be pursuing the new station on Marapai Road and Senator Highway as soon as we are notified of the award of a special use permit by the US Forest Service. We should be notified very soon. This new station will need to be financed and during these uncertain times may be difficult to get completed.

All of the proposed projects will be evaluated annually to ensure we can complete these projects without compromising the level of service that we have worked so hard to obtain. We revised our budget this year to make certain that we are not relying on income from other sources that may not be available to us in the future (grants and off-district wildland responses). We are certain that this has been the correct course of action even though it has meant higher taxes for all. We do not plan to increase taxes beyond the levels we have this year.

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The Groom Creek Fire District Board meets in regular session on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Station 41 on Friendly Pines Rd. and Spur Lane. Public attendance is encouraged and welcome.

Volunteers are always needed. For more information visit www.groomcreek.org

Call Statistics

Another reason for the increased need for personnel is the continual increase in the number and type of call responses to which we are called. Since 1998, we have been tracking our calls in a database and posting these statistics on our website. Please visit www.groomcreek.org for detailed information. These statistics show that we need the personnel coverage during the times when additional response was not readily available in the past.

<u>Time Period</u>	<u>Number of Calls</u>	<u>Types of Calls</u>
07/01/05-06/30/06	63	9
07/01/06-06/30/07	88	13
07/01/07-06/30/08	110	17

Calls by Day of Week%

Sunday	18.58%
Monday	12.39%
Tuesday	13.03%
Wednesday	12.52%
Thursday	15.10%
Friday	12.65%
Saturday	15.74%

Calls by Time of Day %

0001-0100	1.42	1200-1300	5.25
0100-0200	1.68	1300-1400	5.29
0200-0300	1.16	1400-1500	4.77
0300-0400	1.42	1500-1600	4.52
0400-0500	1.03	1600-1700	5.55
0500-0600	0.52	1700-1800	6.84
0600-0700	1.68	1800-1900	4.90
0700-0800	2.71	1900-2000	4.26
0800-0900	4.65	2000-2100	3.23
0900-1000	4.00	2100-2200	4.00
1000-1100	4.13	2200-2300	2.32
1100-1200	6.45	2300-2400	1.29

Member Profile

Matt Fay is a reserve Captain for the fire district and has been the Webmaster for the past few years. We have the best, most informative website that exists in the fire service.

Matt is also responsible for obtaining many of the grants that we have received recently including the Assistance to Firefighters Grant where we received over \$88,000 worth of equipment and most recently the grant from the Arizona Department of Homeland Security for our Thermal Imaging Camera worth over \$7700.

Matt has been a member of the fire district since 2003, starting off as a volunteer firefighter and was one of the first full-time captains that we hired. Matt owns a business that has required him to be a reserve with us since last year. We congratulate Matt on Five Years of Service to the community. Please feel free to let him know if you would like to see other info on our website.

Advertise locally - Any Groom Creek business owners can advertise in the upcoming issues of the Lookout Newsletter for only \$35 per issue for a business card sized ad. Please send a copy of your business card to the fire station at 1110 E Friendly Pines Rd. Prescott, AZ 86303 or call 928-778-6519

**Phil Parks
35 years experience**

**Groom Creek
Plumbing**

ROC# 247304

928-771-9137



Groom Creek Fire District

1110 E Friendly Pines Rd
Prescott, AZ 86303

Phone 928.778.6519

Email gcfid@cablone.net

www.groomcreek.org

CPR Classes

Thanks to all members of the community who have attended our CPR and First Aid classes. We will continue to offer these classes to all residents of the fire district and their families at no cost and for those outside the Groom Creek area for \$25. The curriculum includes CPR for adults, children and infants, environmental emergencies, basic first aid skills and use of an automated external defibrillator (AED).

Our next class is scheduled for Saturday, January 17th from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. and will include lunch. If you are interested, please call the fire station at 778-6519 and speak with Todd Bentley. Leave a message if we are not available and we'll get back with you to confirm your attendance.

Class space is limited, so reserve your place as soon as possible.



Upcoming Events

DECEMBER 20th - Christmas Caroling in the Park

We will be having the 2nd Annual Christmas Caroling in the Park at 5:00 p.m. on SATURDAY, December 20th. There will be a warming fire and hot beverages will be served.

Groom Creek Cookbooks are Here -

Please contact Anna Marie Hammon at 928-777-8349 if you have pre-ordered a Groom Creek Community Cookbook.

If you would like to purchase one, they are being sold at all our events for the low price of \$8.00 or you can call the phone number and order one! They will certainly make great Christmas presents.